

**IN THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of the claims is provided in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

1. (currently amended) A method for limiting remote display of a local system user interface, comprising:

designating one or more interface regions of a system user interface as limited remote access interface regions, wherein the system user interface controls the operation of a medical imaging system and is displayed on a local operator workstation;

modifying the limited remote access interface regions present in screen data sent to a remote operator workstation for display; and

displaying the modified interface regions at the remote operator workstation, wherein the modified interface regions visually differ when displayed from respective unmodified interface regions and wherein the system user interface has functionality on the local operator workstation which is not enabled on the remote operator workstation.

2. (original) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein each limited remote access regions is designated with one of two or more levels of remote access corresponding to different degrees of modification such that the differentially modified interface regions may be visually distinguished when displayed at the remote operator workstation.

3. (original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein one level of remote access corresponds to a modified interface region comprising a solid visual region when displayed such that no text or image is visible.

4. (original) The method as recited in claim 2, wherein one level of remote access corresponds to a modified interface region comprising a visually obscured region when displayed through which text or images may be visible.

5. (original) The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the visually obscured region comprises one or more of a hatching, a shading, and a tinting.

6. (cancelled)

7. (currently amended) A method for limiting remote operation of a local system user interface, comprising:

designating one or more interface regions of a system user interface as limited remote access interface regions, wherein the system user interface controls the operation of a medical imaging system;

identifying one or more restricted remote inputs in an input stream to a local system using the system user interface, wherein the one or more restricted remote inputs are generated via interaction at a remote operator workstation with the one or more limited remote access interface regions; and

removing the one or more restricted remote inputs from the input stream to the local system, wherein removing the one or more restricted remote inputs prevents remote activation of the medical imaging system.

8. (original) The method as recited in claim 7, wherein each limited remote access region is designated with one of two or more levels of remote access.

9. (cancelled)

10. (currently amended) A computer program, provided on one or more tangible computer readable media, for limiting remote display of a local system user interface, comprising:

a routine for designating one or more interface regions of a system user interface as limited remote access interface regions, wherein the system user interface controls the

operation of a medical imaging system and is displayed on a local operator workstation;  
and

a routine for modifying the limited remote access interface regions present in screen data sent to a remote operator workstation for display, wherein the modified interface regions visually differ from respective unmodified interface regions when displayed and wherein the system user interface has functionality on the local operator workstation which is not enabled on the remote operator workstation.

11. (original) The computer program as recited in claim 10, wherein the routine for designating designates each limited remote access region with one of two or more levels of remote access and wherein the routine for modifying modifies each limited remote access region based upon the designated level of remote access such that the differentially modified interface regions may be visually distinguished when displayed at the remote operator workstation.

12. (original) The computer program as recited in claim 11, wherein the routine for modifying modifies each interface region designated with a first level of remote access such that the modified interface regions comprise a solid visual region when displayed such that no text or image is visible.

13. (original) The computer program as recited in claim 11, wherein the routine for modifying modifies each interface region designated with a first level of remote access such that the modified interface regions comprise a visually obscured region when displayed through which text or images may be visible.

14. (original) The computer program as recited in claim 13, wherein the visually obscured region comprises one or more of a hatching, a shading, and a tinting.

15. (cancelled)

16. (currently amended) A computer program, provided on one or more tangible computer readable media, for limiting remote operation of a local system user interface, comprising:

a routine for designating one or more interface regions of a system user interface as limited remote access interface regions, wherein the system user interface controls the operation of a medical imaging system;

a routine for identifying one or more restricted remote inputs in an input stream to a local system using the system user interface, wherein the one or more restricted remote inputs are generated via interaction at a remote operator workstation with the one or more limited remote access interface regions; and

a routine for removing the one or more restricted remote inputs from the input stream to the local system, wherein removing the one or more restricted remote inputs prevents remote activation of the medical imaging system.

17. (currently amended) The computer program as recited in claim 16, wherein the routine for designating designates each limited remote access region with one of two or more levels of remote access.

18. (cancelled)

19. (currently amended) A remote viewing system for a medical imaging system, comprising:

a local medical imaging system, comprising:

an imager configured to detect one or more signals which may be converted into a physiological image;

one or more data acquisition circuits configured to receive and process the one or more signals from the imager;

one or more system control circuits configured to control one or more of the imager and the data acquisition circuits;

at least one local operator workstation configured to receive at least the one or more processed signals and to communicate with the one or more system control circuits and with one or more memory devices;

a remote operator workstation configured to receive at least the one or more processed signals via a network connection; and

a limited communication module located on at least one of the network connection ~~and~~ or the local medical imaging system, wherein the limited communication module may be configured to designate one or more interface regions of a system user interface as limited remote access interface regions and wherein the system user interface controls the operation of the local medical imaging system and is displayed on the local operator workstation, and to modify the limited remote access interface regions present in screen data sent to the remote operator workstation such that the modified interface regions visually differ from the respective unmodified interface regions when displayed and such that the system user interface has functionality on the local operator workstation which is not enabled on the remote operator workstation.

20. (currently amended) The remote viewing system as recited in claim 19, further comprising one or more data processing circuits configured to receive and further process the one or more signals from the one or more data acquisition circuits.

21. (original) The remote viewing system as recited in claim 19, wherein the local medical imaging system comprises one of a CT imaging system, an MRI imaging system, a tomosynthesis system, an EBT imaging system, a PET imaging system, and a digital X-ray imaging system.

22. (original) The remote viewing system as recited in claim 19, wherein the limited communication module comprises routines executed on at least one of the system control circuits and the local operator workstation.

23. (original) The remote viewing system as recited in claim 19, wherein the limited communication module comprises routines executed by at least one server in the network connection.

24. (original) The remote viewing system as recited in claim 19, wherein the limited communication module designates each limited remote access region with one of two or more levels of remote access and modifies each limited remote access region based upon the designated level of remote access such that the differentially modified interface regions may be visually distinguished when displayed at the remote operator workstation.

25. (original) The remote viewing system as recited in claim 24, wherein the limited communication module modifies each interface region designated with a first level of remote access such that the modified interface regions comprise a solid visual region when displayed such that no text or image is visible.

26. (original) The remote viewing system as recited in claim 24, wherein the limited communication module modifies each interface region designated with a first level of remote access such that the modified interface regions comprise a visually obscured region when displayed through which text or images may be visible.

27. (original) The remote viewing system as recited in claim 26, wherein the visually obscured region comprises one or more of a hatching, a shading, and a tinting.

28. (currently amended) A remote input system for a medical imaging system, comprising:

a local medical imaging system, comprising:

- an imager configured to detect one or more signals which may be converted into a physiological image;
- one or more data acquisition circuits configured to receive and process the one or more signals from the imager;
- one or more system control circuits configured to control one or more of the imager and the data acquisition circuits;
- at least one local operator workstation configured to receive at least the one or more processed signals and to communicate with the one or more system control circuits and with one or more memory devices;
- a remote operator workstation configured to receive at least the one or more processed signals and to communicate with the one or more system control circuits via a network connection; and
- a limited communication module located on at least one of the network connection and or the local medical imaging system, wherein the limited communication module may be configured to designate one or more interface regions of a system user interface as limited remote access interface regions, to identify one or more restricted remote inputs in an input stream to the local medical imaging system using the system user interface, wherein the one or more restricted remote inputs are generated via interaction at the remote operator workstation with the one or more limited remote access interface regions, and to remove the one or more restricted remote inputs from the input stream to the local medical imaging system, wherein removing the one or more restricted remote inputs prevents remote activation of the local medical imaging system.

29. (currently amended) The remote input system as recited in claim 28, further comprising one or more data processing circuits configured to receive and further process the one or more signals from the one or more data acquisition circuits.

30. (original) The remote input system as recited in claim 28, wherein the local medical imaging system comprises one of a CT imaging system, an MRI imaging system, a tomosynthesis system, an EBT imaging system, a PET imaging system, and a digital X-ray imaging system.

31. (original) The remote input system as recited in claim 28, wherein the limited communication module comprises routines executed on at least one of the system control circuits and the local operator workstation.

32. (original) The remote input system as recited in claim 28, wherein the limited communication module comprises routines executed by at least one server in the network connection.

33. (original) The remote input system as recited in claim 28, wherein the limited communication module designates each limited remote access region with one of two or more levels of remote access.

34. (cancelled)

35. (cancelled)

36. (new) A method for limiting remote access to a medical imaging system comprising:  
differentiating functionality of a system user interface based on proximity of an operator workstation to a medical imaging device.

37. (new) A remote access system for a medical imaging system, comprising:  
a local medical imaging system, comprising:  
an imager configured to detect one or more signals which may be converted into a physiological image;



one or more data acquisition circuits configured to receive and process the one or more signals from the imager;

one or more system control circuits configured to control one or more of the imager and the data acquisition circuits;

one or more local operator workstations configured to receive at least the one or more processed signals and to communicate with the one or more system control circuits and with one or more memory devices;

a remote operator workstation configured to receive at least the one or more processed signals and to communicate with the one or more system control circuits via a network connection; and

a limited communication module configured to provide different functionality to the one or more local operator workstations and the remote operator workstation.